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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/873,123	05/31/2001	Graham V. Poor	ORTV.P005	1690
53186	7590	10/05/2006	EXAMINER	
COURTNEY STANIFORD & GREGORY LLP			BONSHOCK, DENNIS G	
P.O. BOX 9686				
SAN JOSE, CA 95157			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2173	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/873,123

Applicant(s)

POOR ET AL.

Examiner

Dennis G. Bonshock

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 15-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 15-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7-18-06.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Final Rejection

Response to Amendment

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed on record in the file: Amendment as received on 7-18-2006.
2. Applicant should note that Poor is listed as the primary inventor, and for future correspondence please refer to the inventors as Poor et al. instead of Mahoney, et al.
3. Claims 1-25 have been examined.

Status of Claims:

4. Claims 1-4, 15-18, and 21-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maes et al., Patent #6,442,251, hereinafter Maes and Dean et al., Pub. No.: US 2002/0152244, hereinafter Dean.
5. Claims 5, 6, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maes, Dean, and Nomura et al., patent # 6,658,409, hereinafter Nomura.
6. Claims 7-14 have been canceled by the applicant.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-4, 15-18, and 21-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maes et al., Patent #6,442,251, hereinafter Maes and Dean et al., Pub. No.: US 2002/0152244, hereinafter Dean.

9. With regard to claim 1, which teaches a method for controlling screens in an electronic device having a display and a plurality of application programs, each application program having associated with it a plurality of screens, Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 11-20, column 3, lines 62-65, and in column 7, lines 28-41, the each of the plurality of applications having a plurality of screens associated with them. With regard to claim 1, further teaching establishing a link between a user interface control of the device and commands in the application programs using a control file coupled to a software bus, detecting at the software bus user activation, Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 30-51, a link between phone application and subprograms (which as shown in column 4, lines 19-21, can be stand alone program) coupled to a system bus along with the User Interface control of the device, where a user input mechanism is further connected to the bus, for entering commands via hard buttons or a touch-screen. With regard to claim 1, further teaching the application programs comprising application programs that are not native to the device, Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 18-23, an embodiment where the applications are compiled and then downloaded to the Palm™ (showing that they are not resident programs). With regard to claim 1, further teaching the control file being editable to configure the link, Maes teaches, in column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 3 and in figure 15, the user editing the arrangement of the keys

on the touch panel, which changes the association of a particular area of the touch panel and the associated link to an action and further teaches the storing of this subprogram for dialer screen related operations in the memory device 320 (see column 4, lines 10-18). With regard to claim 1, further teaching detecting user activation of a user interface control represented on the display, the display displaying a representation of a first screen, the representation of the first screen included in one of the plurality of screens, Maes teaches, in column 1, line 65 through column 2, line 10, the activation of a button displayed on a Palm type computer, the button associated with a command to display the note taking application. With regard to claim 1, further teaching matching a command to the activation of the user interface control associated with the command in response to an indication of the command listed in a control file with indications of the plurality of commands, Maes teaches, in column 2, lines 17-22 and column 7, lines 28-41, the matching of commands (open the note application) with user interface controls (selection of the note button). With regard to claim 1, further teaching on of the plurality of object methods, each associated with one and only one of the plurality of commands, responding to a match between the command listed in the control file and the activation of the user interface control, Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 20-26 and column 1, line 65 through column 2, line 10, the use of Java for implementing the programs, where Java is known in the art, and further disclosed in page 8 of the applications specification, to be an object oriented programming language, where the programs would provide different object methods for each command upon activation. With regard to claim 1, which further teaches starting execution of a second application program in

response to a command of at least one or the control file and the software bus, Maes teaches, in column 4, line 60 through column 5, line 18, a second application program (note taking application) being executed in response to a user command (taping the note key) provided in the first application program (phone application). With regard to claim 1, which further teaches changing the display from displaying a representation of the first screen to displaying a representation of a second screen in response to the object method, Maes teaches, in column 2, lines 7-10 and figures 2 and 5, the changing of the screen from the phone based application to the note taking application upon selection of a button.

Maes teaches the assigning of different functions to particular keys (see column 3, lines 55-59), but doesn't specifically teach an editable control file that establishes a link between a UI control and the commands in the application programs, wherein the application programs comprise application programs that are not native to the device. Dean teaches a system for assigning function to GUI elements (abstract and paragraph 20), similar to that of Maes, but further teaches an XML "file" (lookup table) that stores a DATATYPE for a GUI element, this DATATYPE links the GUI element to a class object, over a server, for defining the functionality of the GUI element (UI TYPE defined a CHOICE to assign functionality of a drop-down menu) (see paragraphs 20, 120, 137, 143, 157, and 165). Dean further teaches an object orientated approach where each Java widget is encapsulated in a set of classes that include additional functionality (see paragraph 165), where each UI TYPE may provide additional functionality. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Maes and

Dean before him at the time the invention was made to modify the reconfigurable set of keys of Maes, to configure graphical elements via their associated links to a class object, as did Dean. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this allows for reusability of code and end system specific UI look and feel (see paragraph 20 of Dean).

10. With regard to claims 2 and 16, which teach the object method invoked by the activation of the user interface control of the first screen is included in the second application program, Maes teaches, in column 4, line 60 through column 5, line 18, while the user in the call application (first screen) the user taps a note button which links to an object method which provides the display of a note taking application (second screen).

11. With regard to claims 3 and 17, which teach the object method invoked by activation of the user interface control of the first screen being included in the first application program, Maes teaches, in column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 3, while the user in the call application (first screen) the user taps a input button which links to an object method which provides the display of a second different call application display (second screen).

12. With regard to claims 4 and 18, which teach the file including indications of a plurality of user interface control labels, each associated with one of the indications of the plurality of commands, and the representation of the user interface control on the display includes one of the plurality of user interface control labels, Maes teaches, in column 7, lines 28-41 and in figure 10, the note application displaying a plurality of

control labels each having a command associated with it for providing a different screen.

13. With respect to claim 15, which teaches, a display and a memory for storing the object framework, Maes teaches, in column 4, line 20-39, the use of a display unit and a memory unit for storing the object framework. With regard to claim 15, further teaching at least one of the application programs being not native to the device, Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 18-23, an embodiment where the applications are compiled and then downloaded to the Palm™ (showing that they are not resident programs). With regard to claim 15, further teaching the control file being editable to configure the link, Maes teaches, in column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 3 and in figure 15, the user editing the arrangement of the keys on the touch panel, which changes the association of a particular area of the touch panel and the associated link to an action and further teaches the storing of this subprogram for dialer screen related operations in the memory device 320 (see column 4, lines 10-18). With regard to claim 15, which further teaches a method for controlling screens in an electronic device having a display and a plurality of application programs, each application program having associated with it a plurality of screens, Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 11-20, column 3, lines 62-65, and in column 7, lines 28-41, the each of the plurality of applications having a plurality of screens associated with them. With regard to claim 15, further teaching establishing a link between a user interface control and commands in the application programs using a control file coupled to a software bus, detecting at the software bus user activation,

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Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 30-51, a link between phone application and subprograms (which as shown in column 4, lines 19-21, can be stand alone program) coupled to a system bus along with the User Interface control of the device, where a user input mechanism is further connected to the bus, for entering commands via hard buttons or a touch-screen. With regard to claim 15, further teaching detecting user activation of a user interface control represented on the display, the display displaying a representation of a first screen, the representation of the first screen included in one of the plurality of screens, Maes teaches, in column 1, line 65 through column 2, line 10, the activation of a button displayed on a Palm type computer, the button associated with a command to display the note taking application. With regard to claim 15, further teaching matching a command to the activation of the user interface control associated with the command in response to an indication of the command listed in a control file with indications of the plurality of commands, Maes teaches, in column 2, lines 17-22 and column 7, lines 28-41, the matching of commands (open the note application) with user interface controls (selection of the note button). With regard to claim 15, further teaching on of the plurality of object methods, each associated with one and only one of the plurality of commands, responding to a match between the command listed in the control file and the activation of the user interface control, Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 20-26 and column 1, line 65 through column 2, line 10, the use of Java for implementing the programs, where Java is known in the art, and further disclosed in page 8 of the applications specification, to be an object oriented programming language, where the programs would provide different object methods for each

command upon activation. With regard to claim 15, which further teaches starting execution of a second application program in response to a command of at least one of the control file and the software bus, Maes teaches, in column 4, line 60 through column 5, line 18, a second application program (note taking application) being executed in response to a user command (taping the note key) provided in the first application program (phone application). With regard to claim 15, which further teaches changing the display from displaying a representation of the first screen to displaying a representation of a second screen in response to the object method, Maes teaches, in column 2, lines 7-10 and figures 2 and 5, the changing of the screen from the phone based application to the note taking application upon selection of a button.

Maes teaches the assigning of different functions to particular keys (see column 3, lines 55-59), but doesn't specifically teach an editable control file that establishes a link between a UI control and the commands in the application programs, wherein the application programs comprise application programs that are not native to the device. Dean teaches a system for assigning function to GUI elements (abstract and paragraph 20), similar to that of Maes, but further teaches an XML "file" (lookup table) that stores a DATATYPE for a GUI element, this DATATYPE links the GUI element to a class object, over a server, for defining the functionality of the GUI element (UI TYPE defined a CHOICE to assign functionality of a drop-down menu) (see paragraphs 20, 120, 137, 143, 157, and 165). Dean further teaches an object orientated approach where each Java widget is encapsulated in a set of classes that include additional functionality (see paragraph 165), where each UI TYPE may provide additional functionality. It would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Maes and Dean before him at the time the invention was made to modify the reconfigurable set of keys of Maes, to configure graphical elements via their associated links to a class object, as did Dean. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this allows for reusability of code and end system specific UI look and feel (see paragraph 20 of Dean).

14. With regard to claim 21, which teaches a personal digital assistant size case, and a wireless data communication interface for communicating data with a remote device, Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 20-43 and figure 2, the system being a Palm size device comprising wireless connectivity.

15. With regard to claims 22 and 24, which teach configuring the control file in accordance with the plurality of application programs, wherein the configuring is performed during at least one of placement of the device in a powered state, initialization of the device, resetting of the device, login events of the device, Maes teaches the plurality of application programs being resident in the phone application (already stored in the device upon startup) and also ones that are downloaded (see column 4, lines 8-30). Maes doesn't specifically state when the configuration of the control file is set, though the user is given the option upon initialization of the programs to reconfigure the arrangement of keys and buttons (see column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 3). Dean further teaches, in paragraph 157, the initializing of the GUI upon user log on.

16. With regard to claims 23 and 25, which teach the software bus comprises a plurality of content holders, wherein content of each content holder is associated with a different one of the application programs, wherein the software bus via the content holders invokes execution of an application program as appropriate to an activated user interface control, Maes teaches, in column 4, lines 8-15 and lines 30-51, various data communication between groups of application data stored in memory over a system bus, that is executable upon user activation of an associated control.

17. Claims 5, 6, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maes, Dean, and Nomura et al., patent # 6,658,409, hereinafter Nomura.

18. With regard to claims 5 and 19, Maes and Dean teach a small display system which provides applications that allow for selection of buttons in the application program that link to a separate screen either in the same application program or in a second application program (see column 1, line 65 through column 2, line 30 of Maes). Maes and Dean, however, don't specifically teach, using bus listeners with corresponding addresses to check for selection of an interface control. Nomura teaches a portable display processing system that allows selection in a particular application to link to a different application (see column 9, lines 35-67 and figures 12, 13, 28, and 29), but further teaches repeatedly determining whether any one of the keys in the key input has being operated (listening) (see column 9, lines 35-40 and figures 12, 13, and 16), and providing addresses that correspond to the currently selected user interface control (see

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column 9, lines 35-67 and figure 16). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Maes, Dean, and Nomura before him at the time the invention was made to modify the display system of Maes and Dean to use listeners to determine if a button was pressed. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because listeners are often used in object-oriented programs, such as Java, to notify the object class of the latest data on the bus.

19. With regard to claims 6 and 20, Maes teaches, in column 4, line 60 through column 5, line 18, while the user in the call application (first screen) the user taps a note button which links to an object method which provides the display of a note taking application (second screen). Maes and Dean, however, don't teach the use of a bus listener for associating an address with the command for invoking the screen change. Nomura, further teaches, in column 9, lines 35-67 and figure 16, the use of a listener for determining if any of the keys have been selected and associating an address with each item for providing the screen change. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Maes, Dean, and Nomura before him at the time the invention was made to modify the display system of Maes and Dean to use listeners to determine if a button was pressed. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because listeners are often used in object-oriented programs, such as Java, to notify the object class of the latest data on the bus.

Response to Arguments

20. The arguments filed on 7-18-2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Reasons set forth below.

21. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6 and 15-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

22. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

23. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

24. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone number is (571)

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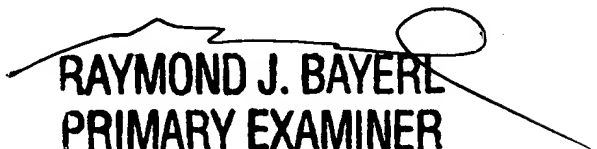
272-4047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

25. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

26. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

9-25-06

dgb


RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2173